



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Division of Family Development
P.O. Box 716
TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625

Chris Christie
Governor

Kim Guadagno
Lt. Governor

Elizabeth Connolly
Acting Commissioner

Natasha Johnson
Director
Tel (609) 588-2400

The following Decision is distributed for your information. This Decision has been made in consideration of the specific facts of this case. This Decision is not to be interpreted as establishing any new mandatory policy or procedure otherwise officially promulgated.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

FINAL DECISION

OAL DKT. NO. HPW 15889-15 S.G.

AGENCY DKT. NO. GA598479 (ESSEX COUNTY DIVISION OF WELFARE)

Petitioner appeals from the Respondent Agency's denial of her application for Work First New Jersey/General Assistance ("WFNJ/GA") benefits. The Agency denied Petitioner WFNJ/GA benefits because it determined that she was over the income eligibility level. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On November 24, 2015, the Honorable Michael Antoniewicz, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony and admitted documents. On December 8, 2015, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision, affirming the Agency's determination.

No Exceptions to the Initial Decision were received.

As the Director of the Division of Family Development, Department of Human Services, I have reviewed the ALJ's Initial Decision and the record, and I ADOPT the ALJ's Initial Decision and AFFIRM the Agency's determination.

In order to be eligible for WFNJ/GA benefits, the applicant's total countable income must be equal to or less than the initial maximum allowable income level for the appropriate unit size, as set out in Schedule III at N.J.A.C. 10:90-3.5. See N.J.A.C. 10:90-3.4(a). Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 10:90-3.5(a), the maximum allowable income for an assistance unit of one, employable adult, is \$210.00.

Here, the record shows that Petitioner, a single adult, applied for WFNJ/GA benefits. See Initial Decision at 1; see also Exhibit R-2 at 3. The record

also shows that Petitioner signed an affidavit, stating that she receives \$100 per week from her child's father. See Initial Decision at 2; see also Exhibit R-2 at 1. The ALJ found that Petitioner's total countable income of \$433 exceeded the maximum allowable income level of \$210, for Petitioner's assistance unit size of one. See Initial Decision at 3; see also N.J.A.C. 10:90-3.4(a) and -3.5(a). Therefore, the ALJ concluded that the Agency properly denied Petitioner WFNJ/GA benefits. See Initial Decision at 3. I agree.

Accordingly, the Initial Decision is ADOPTED and the Agency's action is AFFIRMED.

DEC 29 2015

Signed Copy on File
at DFD, BARA

Natasha Johnson
Director